Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for rebooking a passenger who is unable to travel on a scheduled flight, comprising the steps of:

obtaining passenger data for said passenger;

comparing the passenger data with one or more rebooking rules;

presenting a plurality of rebooking flight candidates to said passenger, said presented flight candidates selected based upon said comparing step, wherein said selected flight candidates are presented to said passenger in a preferred order based on a ranking of said flight candidates according to the rebooking rules;

prompting said passenger to select one of said presented candidates; and

rebooking said passenger on the selected one of said presented candidates.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises decreasing a number of said rebooking flight candidates presented to said passenger failing to meet criteria for high passenger value, said criteria comprising at least one among a frequent flyer status, a class of ticket, and a total value of tickets purchased by said passenger over a period of time.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data of said passenger is compared to passenger data of at least one other passenger in need of rebooking, and said passenger is offered rebooking flight candidates based upon said comparing step.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data is provided in substantially real time.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises presenting high remaining unflown value flight rebooking candidates and not presenting rebooking flight candidates with lower unflown values.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said presenting step comprises offering said passenger incentives for selecting rebooking flight candidates with high remaining unflown value.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data comprises the remaining unflown ticket value for said passenger.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data comprises passenger loyalty data.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for rebooking passengers who are unable to travel on scheduled flights, comprising:

a data store comprising passenger data, rebooking rules, and flight operations data, said flight operations data comprising flight rebooking candidates for said passengers;

a re-accommodation engine having access to said data store for determining a plurality ~~one or more~~ of said rebooking flight candidates to present to said passengers based on said passenger data and said rebooking rules; and

one or more user clients for presenting to said passengers said plurality of rebooking flight candidates determined by said engine and for prompting said passengers

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to select one of said presented flight candidates, <u>wherein said determined rebooking flight</u> <u>candidates are presented to said passengers in a preferred order based on a ranking of said</u> <u>rebooking flight candidates according to the rebooking rules.</u>

10.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 9, wherein said re-accommodation engine further determines said flight candidates to present based on comparing said flight operations data for said rebooking flight candidates.

11.   (Cancelled) The system of claim 9, wherein said re-accommodation engine ranks said flight candidates according to said rebooking rules.

12.   (Cancelled).

13.   (Currently Amended) A ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u>-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u> for causing the ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u> to perform the steps of:

      obtaining passenger data for a passenger; and

      comparing the passenger data with one or more rebooking rules;

      presenting <u>a plurality of </u>rebooking flight candidates to said passenger, said presented flight candidates selected based upon said comparing step<u>, wherein said</u> <u>selected flight candidates are presented to said passenger in a preferred order based on a</u> <u>ranking of said flight candidates according to the rebooking rules</u>;

      prompting said passenger to select one of said presented candidates; and

      rebooking said passenger on the selected one of said presented candidates.

14.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u>-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises decreasing a number of said rebooking flight

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candidates presented to said passenger failing to meet criteria for high passenger value, said criteria comprising at least one among a frequent flyer status, a class of ticket, and a total value of tickets purchased by said passenger over a period of time.

15.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data of said passenger is compared to passenger data of at least one other passenger in need of rebooking, and said passenger is offered rebooking flight candidates based upon said comparing step.

16.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data is provided in substantially real time.

17.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises presenting high remaining unflown value flight rebooking candidates and not presenting rebooking flight candidates with lower unflown values.

18.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said presenting step comprises offering said passenger incentives for selecting rebooking flight candidates with high remaining unflown value.

19.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data comprises the remaining unflown ticket value for said passenger.

20.   (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said passenger data comprises passenger loyalty data.

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21.   (Currently Amended)   The ~~machine~~ computer-readable storage of claim 13, wherein said comparing step compares passenger data with flight operations data for said rebooking flight candidates.

22.   (Cancelled).

23.   (Cancelled).

24.   (Currently Amended) A system for rebooking a passenger who is unable to travel on a scheduled flight, comprising:

a data store comprising rebooking rules and flight operations data, said flight operations data comprising flight rebooking candidates for said passenger;

a re-accommodation engine for retrieving passenger data and determining a plurality ~~one or more~~ of said rebooking flight candidates to present to said passenger based on said passenger data and said rebooking rules; and

a telephone-based voice response unit (VRU) for interacting with said passenger, said VRU presenting to said passenger rebooking flight candidates and for prompting said passenger to select one of said presented flight candidates based upon said passenger data, wherein said determined rebooking flight candidates are presented to said passenger in a preferred order based on a ranking of said rebooking flight candidates according to the rebooking rules.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 24, wherein said VRU comprises a text-to-speech system for presenting said flight candidates to said passenger and at least one among a speech recognition system and a dual tone multi-frequency recognizer system for receiving flight selection information from said passenger.

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26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein said re-accommodation engine limits the number of said flight candidates presented to said passengers failing to meet criteria for high passenger value, said criteria comprising at least one among a frequent flyer status, a class of ticket, and a total value of tickets purchased by said passenger over a period of time.